

STATE OF IOWA  
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
UTILITIES BOARD

IN RE:  NORTHWESTERN ENERGY, A DIVISION OF NORTHWESTERN SERVICES GROUP, INC.	DOCKET NO. CGP-01-10
	CERTIFICATE NO. G-0005

**CERTIFICATE TO PROVIDE LARGE VOLUME SERVICE**

(Issued October 1, 2001)

On June 13, 2001, NorthWestern Energy, a division of NorthWestern Services Group, Inc. (NorthWestern), filed an application requesting the issuance of a certificate as a competitive natural gas provider (CNGP) by the Utilities Board (Board). The Board granted NorthWestern a waiver of the June 1, 2001, filing date, required by 199 IAC 19.14(2), by order issued May 31, 2001. On June 15, 2001, the Board notified NorthWestern that the application was complete and the 90-day review period had begun. On September 13, 2001, the Board issued an order extending the review period.

The Board reviewed the information provided by NorthWestern and is issuing an order concurrently with this certificate approving the application for a certificate as a competitive natural gas provider. NorthWestern stated in a letter filed September 13, 2001, that it only intended to provide service to large volume customers.

Iowa Code § 476.87 requires that a competitive natural gas provider must reasonably demonstrate managerial, technical, and financial capability sufficient to obtain and deliver the services it proposes to offer. Based on a review of NorthWestern's application, the Board finds that NorthWestern has reasonably demonstrated that it possesses the appropriate managerial, technical, and financial capability sufficient to obtain and deliver competitive natural gas services to large volume customers. Additionally, the Board finds that no additional conditions should be placed on the certificate.

**IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:**

This certificate as a competitive natural gas provider, issued pursuant to Iowa Code § 476.87 (2001), authorizes NorthWestern Energy, a division of NorthWestern Services Group, Inc., to furnish natural gas services as a marketer or aggregator to large volume customers in Iowa.

**UTILITIES BOARD**

\_\_\_\_\_

/s/ Diane Munns

ATTEST:

/s/ Judi K. Cooper  
Executive Secretary

/s/ Mark O. Lambert

Dated at Des Moines, Iowa, this 1<sup>st</sup> day of October, 2001.